

MOBILE, ALABAMA

To: Archives
Re: Mobile

M E M O R A N D U M

February 2, 1968 (Dictated 1/1/68)

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney
FROM: ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA, Assistant D. A.
RE: MOBILE, ALABAMA

Today, I received a telephone call from Mr. DAVID WALKER a radio man who formerly worked in Mobile, Alabama with our close friend ART KEENEY. Mr. WALKER is now working for a radio station in Montgomery, Alabama, WAA.

Mr. WALKER wanted to know if the name JIM WALDROP, a staff writer for the United Press, had ever come up in our investigation. He remembers that Mr. WALDROP was actively involved in an investigation in the Mobile area in which he was looking for an airstrip which was located in Mobile and which was supposedly being used by a group of men who were smuggling guns into Cuba or involved in narcotic traffic. Mr. WALDROP was brutally murdered having been stabbed at least 13 times. Mr. WALKER said he would contact ART KEENEY and try to arrange a conference between us for the near future and give us more of the background.

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MEMORANDUM

WILLIAM spent some time in the Salvation Army in Mobile. Mr. LACKIE informed me that his records only went back to the beginning of 1967, but that Major WALKER of the Salvation Army may have the records of the people who registered

May 8, 1967

tion Army in 1963. LACKIE also said me that if any money were loaned to any person staying at the Salvation Army it would have to come through the Travelers Aid Bureau which is a member of the United Fund. Mr. Keeney advised me that he would

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA, Assistant D. A.

RE: TRIP TO MOBILE, ALABAMA ON May 5, 1967 THRU May 7, 1967.

I travelled to Mobile, Alabama to talk to Mr. Art Keeney who is the News Director of Radio Station WKRG, Mobile, Alabama, 162 St. Louis Street. Mr. Keeney had had several conversations with me over the telephone and was trying to run down some leads for me in the Mobile area. Mr. Keeney had arranged an interview for me with Sgt. McKeough of the Mobile Police Department.

On August 11, 1963, Sgt. McKeough had arrested one JAMES ARVILLE HAWKINS of Baltimore, Maryland, while HAWKINS was in the Mobile area after spending 3 weeks in New Orleans. It seems that HAWKINS had been boasting around the Baltimore area that he was on his way to New Orleans to attend a meeting which would lead to the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The FBI and Secret Service were well aware of Mr. HAWKINS' statements and it was as a result of their information that HAWKINS was finally arrested in the Mobile area. McKeough informed me that after HAWKINS was arrested he was escorted back to Baltimore, Maryland and turned over to the Federal Authorities. The person who actually arrested HAWKINS was a Secret Service Agent by the name of GUTHRIE. Mr. Keeney informed me that the Federal Authorities have a complete file on this arrest and on this person's activities in the Mobile and New Orleans areas and that the person who mentioned this file to him was a Mr. STANLEY FOUNTAIN the U. S. Marshal in Mobile. There seems to be some discrepancy between GUTHRIE and FOUNTAIN as to whether or not the file is still in existence, or whether or not it has already been destroyed. HAWKINS told McKeough while they were riding in the car back to Baltimore that he had made the trip to Louisiana to assassinate the President. He said that he had spent 3 weeks in New Orleans working in a bar and was on his way back to Baltimore when he was arrested. He did not elaborate on who he worked for or on any of the people he met or associated with. HAWKINS told McKeough that he had been hospitalized before for some psychiatric disorder. HAWKINS continually boasted on the way back to Baltimore that he would still help carry out the assassination of the President. McKeough suggested that we try and get the file from the FBI concerning this man.

After talking to McKeough, I then went to the Salvation Army and talked to Mr. LACKIE who is the Clerk for the Salvation Army. I was interested in checking the veracity of a

tape which said that OSWALD spent some time in the Salvation Army in Mobile. Mr. LACKIE informed me that his records only went back to the beginning of 1967, but that Major WALKER of the Salvation Army may have the records of the people who registered at the Salvation Army in 1963. LACKIE also told me that if any money were loaned to any person staying at the Salvation Army it would have to come through the Travelers Aid Bureau which is a member of the United Fund. Mr. Keeney advised me that he would contact Major WALKER the following Monday and also contact the Travelers Aid Bureau and try to ascertain from their records whether or not OSWALD actually stayed at the Salvation Army or borrowed some money from the Travelers Aid Bureau.

I then inquired about the possibility of CLAY SHAW having made a speech at Spring Hill College. Mr. Keeney advised me that he had read in the Birmingham News that CLAY SHAW had made a speech at Spring Hill College approximately 30 to 60 days after OSWALD spoke there. Mr. Keeney said that he would contact the Birmingham newspaper and send us copies of that particular article and would also inquire as to who arranged for SHAW to speak there. He said he would also ask Father William J. Rimes, President of Spring Hill College, who arranged for SHAW to speak there. Keeney said that so far he has not been able to find one person who attended OSWALD's speech at Spring Hill College.

Mr. Keeney also told me that a Mr. WALTER C. CLEWIS, who was a friend of JACK RUBY in Dallas, was now the Manager of the Municipal Auditorium in Mobile, Alabama, and that he (Keeney) would try and arrange an interview for me with CLEWIS. As of 7:00 P.M. Saturday evening, Mr. CLEWIS had not returned from out-of-town. Mr. Keeney said that he would personally conduct a taped interview with CLEWIS and send the tape to us. His primary questions would be in the area of whether or not RUBY had spent any time at all in the Mobile area. Mr. Keeney then informed me that he would also check into the associates of HASKELL JOHNSON, C. J. HOLMAN and PETER J. CORLICH. Mr. Keeney said that if RUBY spent any time in the Mobile area he would have had to contact one of these three individuals as they are known as the "Vice Kings" of Mobile, Alabama, and trade quite heavily in the field of prostitution and other vices.

Mr. Keeney also informed me that he has checked through the records for possible photographs of individuals who were arrested for distributing leaflets in front of Walgreen's Drug Store in Mobile, Alabama around March, April or May of 1963. He said that he did not notice anyone in the pictures who might be LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Mr. Keeney contacted the Mobile Police and asked them to send me their files on the individuals who were arrested in this connection. It has been approximately 2 weeks since my request but I have not received the files to date. I understand that Major BOTTA, Captain LAMIE or Captain McLAIN would have to give their approval before the files are released to us.

M E M O R A N D U M

May 4, 1967

TO: LOUIS IVON

FROM: ANDREW SCIAMBRA

RE: INTERVIEW WITH MR. ART KEENEY
Manager of WKRG TV Channel 5
Mobile, Alabama

I contacted MR. KEENEY on April 25, 1967, in response to a letter that he had written to me. MR. KEENEY said that around September of 1963 the Mobile Police Station got a tip that a man from Baltimore, Maryland, was driving down to New Orleans to attend a meeting which had to do something with assassinating the President. The individual was intercepted by the Mobile Police Department and escorted all the way back to Baltimore by them. One of the policemen who escorted the individual back is a Sgt. McKEOUGH who is a veteran of twenty years on the Mobile Police Force. MR. KEENEY said that SGT. McKEOUGH wanted to contact us as this may be helpful to us in our investigation but wants to remain completely anonymous as the Mobile Police Force has told him to keep the incident quiet. MR. KEENEY said that he would try to work out some arrangement for me to talk with SGT. McKEOUGH.

On May 3, 1967, MR. KEENEY called me and informed me that the FBI was also involved in this interception and that the Mobile Police has turned the file over to them. MR. STANLEY FOUNTAIN, Assistant U. S. Marshal, is now in possession of the file and MR. KEENEY said that he has asked him to locate it because we were interested in the file. MR. FOUNTAIN said that he would do so.

MR. KEENEY also said that one of the picketers who picketed the Mobile area and distributed intergration type leaflets was named SMITH. He said that he would try to get the names of the other individuals who were arrested with SMITH. He said that SMITH now lives in Lucedale, Mississippi, and runs a general store there. MR. KEENEY says that SMITH has a reputation for being a big gun and rifle enthusiast and is noted for his outspoken Marxist's beliefs. MR. KEENEY also told me that there is a friend of JACK RUBY who lives in Mobile by the name of WALTER C. CLEWIS. He pointed out that it may be a good idea to talk with him. He said that he would try to arrange an interview with him for me.

MR. KEENEY also said that there was a mysterious murder in Mobile in April of 1965. The person who was murdered was named WALDRUP and he was working for the Associated Press and had made many trips to the New Orleans area. He said that he did not know if WALDRUP was working on this investigation but it may be well to look into this situation. He said that there is only one file on this murder and it is locked in the personal safe of the Mobile Police Department. MR. KEENEY said that he

has also been trying to locate some people who may have been present when LEE HARVEY OSWALD spoke at Springhill College but so far he has been unable to find anyone who will admit that they was present at the speech.

On May 4, 1967, MR. KEENEY called me and told me that the name of the person arrested in Mobile by the Secret Service is JAMES ARVILLE HAWKINS.

M E M O R A N D U M

March 17, 1967

TO: CHARLES R. WARD, Chief Assistant District Attorney
FROM: NUMA BERTEL, Assistant District Attorney

CHARLES RIVET, Secretary of the New Orleans Bar Association, was in to see me this day with the following information. He stated that he had been told that LEE HARVEY OSWALD spent some time at the Jesuit House of Studies in Mobile, Alabama, upon his return from Russia. He further stated that he had been told that CLAY SHAW made a speech in Mobile, Alabama. He did not have any information as to whether or not both subjects were in Mobile, Alabama, at the same time but thought that we might wish to check on this information and suggested that the Chamber of Commerce at Mobile might know when SHAW made a speech in Mobile and the official at the Jesuit House of Studies might know when OSWALD visited there.

NUMA BERTEL

